



# THE JACG NEWSLETTER

## JACG

THE JERSEY ATARI COMPUTER GROUP

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MARCH 1992

### FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Well, my son's hockey season is just about over as you read this, so good news or bad news depending on your viewpoint, it looks I will be able to get to the next meeting for the first time in a long while. I don't know how these other JACG members that hardly show up can go so long between meetings voluntarily. Not only have I missed all the great demos and information that is learned each month, but I also just miss seeing and meeting and talking to all my other Atari friends and checking out all the bargains at the flea market table. To me, each meeting is not only an informational event but a social event as well. It will be nice to be back next month!

Since the newsletter seems to be going well, let me tell you some exciting news for Atari 8-bitters. There is a movement underway right now, very organized but just beginning, to begin publication once again of an all Atari, all 8-bit magazine. Spearheading this movement is Ben Poehland, ex-8-bit Editor for the esteemed Current Notes publication. More news on this will be forthcoming next month.

And here's another real kicker I learned just this month. You can use Sega Genesis controllers anywhere you can use regular Atari 8-bit controllers, that is on the 8-bit or the ST. The directional pad works the movements and the B button is the Fire button. It really works great for lots of games like PacMan, Dig Dug, Missile Command and many more!.

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**NEXT MEETING:**

**April 11th, 1992**

**10:00 AM TO NOON**

**FLEA MARKET Before Meeting**



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## GENERAL FEATURE

### **'PREZ'ING MATTERS**

*by Ed Salvesen, President JACG*

I hope the advertised disk sale this month spurred readers to attend and avail themselves, but I am pessimistic, quite frankly. I have tried to garner more active interest in the group without 'hog-tying' anyone into any responsibilities. (Silent Majority? How about PETRIFIED Majority?!)

The result of all this is that my apartment looks like a JACG warehouse and our membership is down to 55 hearty souls. Last month, only four out of ten renewed. This month, I'm praying we go, 'three for three'. I reiterate my standing plea: We need volunteers on an 'as needed' basis!

I understand many members wait until they get home to read their newsletters and that would explain why I had to interrupt the drawing, last month, to help dismantle the projection screen! I wouldn't hesitate to help ERECT it except I'm out front each meeting as asst. librarian and, for the past few months, I've also been acting Sec/Membership officer. I guarantee that during this lifetime, I will not accomplish being in two places at the same time. Will you PLEASE, help us out?

For the very few who have not boycotted the JACG (201-690-5224) BBS, your comments regarding it are welcome. For the majority, the BBS has been up for five straight weeks, as I write this, and I've tried to address everyone's problems as they arise. I've sent the SysOp a copy of our membership roster to aid him in validating new callers. It is no longer an excuse for quitting the JACG.

The last TRS-80 has a bad power supply, but will nevertheless be offered in next month's drawings. There

are more programs from the APX (8-bit) collection and there will be hardware adjuncts later, such as a KOALA pad in May and after the June Safari, some monitor cables and a data switcher!

Ah! Speaking of the Safari; I know it's early but we need volunteers. Remember, if you demo something you'd like to sell, it may sell itself at the Safari! Again, this year, I'll keep it light, doing only games so bring the kids! Make a morning of it!

For many of you who are uncomfortable with ST disks that are cumbersome to unarc, Dave Noyes is now constructing them in their full double sided glory, unarced and ready to run! Those with only single sided drives need not despair! We will not leave you 'high & dry'! If you have single sided only and wish to purchase an ST library disk introduced after Feb.'92, tell Dave and he will make you a single-sided set.

From the 'squeaky wheel gets the grease' school: I remind you to talk to your VP's regarding what demos you want to see. Joe Hicswa (8-bit) and John Dean (16-bit) want to hear from you!

Sam Cory is correct when he says those DOM's that are demoed sell more readily. So as not to 'shut out' members who can't purchase DOM's after the meeting (and don't feel the extra buck is fair), I will offer 'rain checks' (good for 1 month) that will allow you the DOM price at the next meeting. That was the idea behind the 'blowout' sale in the first place!

And finally.....I know that most of you don't care much about exchange newsletters, and that's a shame. Through them, I've learned that as word processors go, LETTER PERFECT is incompatible with many others and that TEXTPRO (in our library) is virtually as good as commercial WP's. What I'll do for you is try to take the most useful information from them and pass it on to you.



Write to Dave Arlington or myself. Request anonymity if necessary. Get something of YOURS into the newsletter. Don't force the 'cadre' to 'wax extemporaneous'!

Till next month.....

## 16 - BIT FEATURE

### *THE JACG ST VP's COLUMN*

*John H. Dean, JACG 16-bit VP*

Thank you, Dave Noyes, for bringing in all your equipment, setting it up, and showing us how you have organized your Mega desktop using Hot Wire, Maxifile, Harlekin, etc. It was an excellent demo.

It was good to have the lobby available again so that we could accommodate the flea market. And according to Pres. Ed Salvesen, who was pinch hitting for Secretary Susan Castle, we are still taking in new members. It's no wonder, with all the benefits available to members. Access to the voluminous disk libraries, both the 8-bit and 16-bit ST, answers to many questions, advice on interface problems, and the help given through excellent demonstrations of all kinds.

The Executive Board often discusses ways of contacting prospective members. One of the best ways is to bring a friend to the monthly meetings - even if he doesn't yet own an Atari. One look at what he can do if does have one should send him out wanting one, unless he picks one up at the flea market.

Please think about how you use your Atari, and plan to demo your favorite program - either productive, utility or entertainment. Your way is almost bound to be different than anyone else's, and we can all get new ideas to help our own efforts. You only have to bring in the software. The Sig VP's are responsible for having the

hardware set up and running. All you have to do is show us how you use your programs.

Think about it.....then do it.

## 8 - BIT FEATURE

### *2 BITS FROM 8-BIT VP*

*by Joseph E. Hicswa - JACG 8-bit VP*

If you missed Feb. meeting you missed another of my floperoo demos. I must practice, practice, practice. It was however a fine demo of what not to do -- poor supervision and not following instructions. The demo was setup for two people: assistant to operate computer and me to explain what was supposed to happen.

For several days before our meeting my routine was continually reviewed, fine tuned. Process was typed and printed, instructions for who would assist me. Volunteer and I neither rehearsed nor practiced together before the demo.

During the demo my assistant tried to learn the process, follow the written instructions, understand the demo and analyze the monitor simultaneously, a difficult thing to do. My apologies to Bruce for neglecting to have trial runs together before demo. Next time!

For those who did attend, my demo was to explain how a LISTed BASIC PROGRAM can be made to autoRUN when booted.

BASIC LANGUAGE programs can be stored two ways on a disk: SAVE "D:FILENAME" and LIST "D:FILENAME".

SAVE programs are stored in tokenized form -- similar to shorthand -- for zippy transfers. They are returned to computer two ways: LOAD "D:FILENAME" and RUN "D:FILENAME".

LOAD permits operator to LIST,



display program to SCREEN or PRINTER for viewing, analyzing and altering.

RUN "D:PROGRAM" LOADs and EXECUTES the program. At one time this faculty was unknown for LISTed programs.

LIST "D:FILENAME" puts program on disk in alphanumeric characters. How it is seen is how it is stored. To bring it back later, operator tells computer to ENTER "D:FILENAME". The LIST program LOADs into computer and waits for your RUN command in order to execute.

An ATARI user discovered a way to prepare LISTed programs to LOAD and autoRUN when booted from disk. He shared it in a club newsletter which circulated. (See JACG other club newsletter library at next meeting for shortcuts and tricks). Other ways were devised. Try this:

Either write a program with your word processor, or load a LISTed file into word processor. Append at end of the program, without a linenumber, one of following commands: CONT, GOTO (line number), RUN, LIST then DISK it.

Reboot with DOS disk in drive #1. When told to ENTER "D:FILENAME", your computer will boot and autoEXECUTE as follows:

CONT starts running program from second line. Thus first line must be REM statement. EG: 0 REM FILENAME.

GOTO (ln#) starts at that line number. If no such number, an error results.

RUN starts from first line.

LIST displays/scrolls program on screen.

Here's a small sample program for you to play with:

It must be written in UPPER CASE with word processor, or LISTed to DOS

disk then put into word processor.

```
0 REM LIST "D:TEST.LST"
10 GRAPHICS 1
20 PRINT #6;"WHEN BOOTED"
30 PRINT #6,"THIS WILL"
40 PRINT #6;"AUTOEXECUTE."
99 END
100 LIST "D:TEST.LST"
REM WORD PROCESSOR PUTS COMMAND HERE
WITHOUT LINENUMBER.
```

When working in DOS enviornment, (DOS disk in drive #1), and you alter your program, use GOTO 100 so it will LIST and save your changes. Remember that word processor must reappend command.

END, RETURN or a GOTO statment must be on the line prior to your LIST line or program is sent to disk each time it's executed.

In a lengthy program LIST "D:FILENAME" MAY BE ANY LINE EG: 1000 OR 30100.

To autoEXECUTE, load program into word processor, add command, return program to disk, boot-up with DOS in drive #1; tell computer to ENTER "D:TEST.LST"

A challenge to 8-bit users: add commands to above program WITHOUT a word processor????

Above is mainly for new JACG members. It may seem passe and trivial to some old members who already know this but forgot they too were new users a long time ago. What they wanted to learn, needed to learn may have seemed passe and trivial to a few old members then also. Each JACG member has an obligation to both old and new members thanking the old by sharing with the new.

We must always remember we learn from and share with one another. We learn from those who are smarter than us or by experimentation then we share with those who want to learn. The



members we teach today might make discoveries tomorrow for us to better utilize our ATARI 8-bits.

Any reader who has an anecdote, news article or 8-bit demo, SHARE IT.

A member is needed to byline MEETING NOTES. How about writing something.

I still seek new members through want ad columns but cannot read all of the newspapers. Check newspapers in your local library. When you see an ATARI system for sale, bring a copy of that ad to me at next meeting. We got two members that way. Let's get more.

The Passaic, N.J. HERALD & NEWS, also the Paramus SURBURBAN NEWS offer free want-ads if item is under \$100. This is a good opportunity to sell systems when upgrading your ATARI. Copies of these papers should be available at a local store or library. If you place an ad and receive calls, let them know about JERSEY ATARI COMPUTER GROUP. Give me their names and addresses, I'll mail the newsletters.

How would you feel if local drugstore supermarket, department store or some appliance store charged six to twenty dollars entrance fee before you could shop and spend your money therein? I would be disgruntled and boycott such establishment. That is how I feel about computer shows and fairs.

Ken Gordon Production charges me nine dollars so I can shop and spend money at his show. LAPTOP EXPOSITIONS, NYC wants \$30 to let me see and buy a lap or palmtop computer. I find it difficult having to pay any one in order to see and buy products. But, That's American Marketing!

See you in April, bring family member and a friend. It's free.

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## 8 - BIT FEATURE

### *8 - BIT PD LIBRARIAN'S REPORT by Sam Cory, JACG 8-bit PD Librarian*

This is your month of joy. ALL 8-BIT LIBRARY DISKS ARE PRICED AS DISKS OF THE MONTH (DOM \$2.00). I have tried to fill all the slots without success. If disks run out, make a request for it ON PAPER which will be available. This RAIN CHECK will really get my attention if the disks are prepaid at the \$2.00 DOM price. \*\*\*\*\* NO RAIN CHECK REQUEST WILL BE FILLED WITHOUT YOUR NAME, ADDRESS, AND JACG NUMBER ON THE SHEET.

One member left a garbled message on my answering device (sorry I could not get the phone number to call back). He called about getting rid of SOLITAIRE score data. If he reads the docs he will have the answer.

First DOM JACG246D is two sides of PS ICONS from JOHN MCGAWAN. There is a listing of the icons at the 8-bit table. John has been very kind to give us information, and files on using DD3. You will be getting them all. He does what I need - gives detailed information in extensive docs about every file he sends. I may even learn something about programming. He has promised to send all his output to be used by JACG.

Because disk labels seem to not stick well if the disk is used often, I am changing the disk structure. Since the naming of any disk side as "FRONT" is only a convention, from here on out what we have called the disk-front will be now the rear of the disk. Now, when the label is affixed there will be a protecting shelf vastly reducing the chances of catching the label on the edge of the disk drive. No change can occur to the quality of the files. I only allow good disks to be used for sale. This brings up another point. I do not test each and every disk for integrity. It would take too much time. If you find a disk with trouble PLEASE



get an exchange disk from the librarian.

If, as some persons have done, a disk is returned twice, the trouble is due to either how the disk is used, or equipment problems. I use a 130XE and 1050 drives to duplicate disks. If you have an 800 or other device using one of the 800 Operating Systems, it is possible my production will fail to RUN. Newer files have been consciencily constructed by the authors to RUN in ALL ATARI 8-bits. Not so with older files made before the 800XL. Those authors did not have the ability to look into the future and see these problems. We have many of the older files in our library which may not RUN in the 800XL, or 130XE unless you use a translator (JACG49-50). If any club member wants to go through our disks and correct them, I will be glad to cooperate. At the same time I will request they do a task that has been needed for a long time of making a synopsis of each file on every disk in the library.

Kris Holtegaard was killed in an auto accident this month. He was driving home from work (10:30pm) when a vehicle with a bunch of teenagers slammed his vehicle into a utility pole. He leaves a wife and child and another big hole in the rapidly diminishing ATARI 8-bit resource pool. JACG was honored with speaker visits from Kris. Speaking on Sparta Dos, and his own system called Datagraf. He ran a very active BBS WQNR consisting of two 8-bits which also acted as OL HACKERS BBS. His large system had 120megs of hard drive, several floppies, and a 130XE. Along with John Alto he produced two VCR tapes devoted entirely to Sparta Dos which we sold. In addition, he was always open to discussion about his favorite computer, and any problem you might have. I was a frequent caller. As an ATARI BASIC Programmer he left us several fine files here listed:

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VCR LABELLER \*\* Makes labels for any side of the cassette.

-----

DATAGRAF \*\* Desktop Business system.

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WQNRDos Shell \*\* Simulates a number of Sparta Dos commands to be used in ATARI BASIC.

-----

NEWSLETTER \*\* A Disk-Based Newsletter used by OL HACKERS for their bimonthly newsletter.

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Several small files.

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His biggest regret was the apathy shown by 8-bitters. They refused to buy his files, and would not offer any viable ideas for him to pursue. He had decided to go into IBM programming claiming there was very small differences, and in two months had found his niche. He expected to keep and use his ATARI. My last phone call in January had him bubbling over the future. Also, telling me he was donating his 8-bit ATARI BASIC files to JACG, and OL HACKERS. I already miss him. God Speed Kris!

Just in! I called Ronnie Richie, the author of Textpro, Sunday, March 1, 1992. The last version of Textpro is DONE, FINISHED, and READY TO SHIP. It has not been BETA Tested so if you find a problem let him (1-504-277-5336) or me know. He will make corrected issues, but this is the last version. He expects to have all disks sent by the end of March to the registered owners. The source code will also be on the disks ( will be two DS disks or more ).

The other DOM JACG 245D JAN/FEB 1992, is the usual fine OL HACKERS effort. Where else can you get near 30 pages of ATARI current information in one location? Not only that, no ADS, and for a measly \$2. That is more information than we ever got from a monthly issue of both ANTIC, and ANALOG. Every issue has a BASIC file



picked for its usefulness. This one allows printing in 2, or 3 columns. I do not understand your apathy. We are lucky to sell 3 disks any issue. Would someone PLEASE tell me what you want?

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## 16 - BIT FEATURE

**"NOBODY KNOWS THE TROUBLE I'VE SEEN..."**  
by John H. Dean

Last week I was using Timeworks DT Publisher to correct some typographical errors on the back page of the JACG NEWSLETTER. No big deal, because since I had already done the page, and saved it, all I had to do was load in the original, make the changes, and then print it out, using my NEC P2200 printer. Everything went fine, I pulled the print, and made photocopies to send to Dave Arlington.

A couple of days latter I had occassion to use Desk Top Publisher again, and while I was at it I thought I would pull another printout of the back cover. It was printing right along, down the page to where the first wide horizontal bar is. At that point, the printing became much lighter, actually almost invisible. Uh oh, I thought, the printer ribbon has given up the ghost, and needs to be replaced. So I put a new ribbon in, and started printing 'from the top' again. What do you know? At exactly the same place on the page, the printing ran out again!

After looking at the printer, I thought maybe the printer mechanism wasn't turning the ribbon spool properly, but I couldn't find any apparent physical damage on either the printer or the ribbon spool. Maybe the file had been corrupted, so I loaded the previous, unchanged file in, and tried that one. Same darn thing! Then, to further check out the printer, I loaded in a text file, and tried to print that out. Everything was A OK with the printer.

Well, perhaps it was the fact that

I use Data Diet, and either the font files or the system files had to be kept in their uncompressed format. So I moved the files to the partition I keep uncompressed for times like this, and tried again. No luck. In talking to Ed Salvesen, I told him about it, but he had no ideas to offer, so I gave up, put it on the back burner, and went on with my other activities. Maybe I could write an article for the JACG Newsletter about my problem, and somebody could come up with an answer. In the meantime, I could always use my new Page Stream 2.01.

Hold the 'phone! I found the answer! It all hinges on the ASSIGN.SYS and the GEMSYS folder that Publisher uses to change fonts and printer drivers. Timeworks Desktop Publisher needs to be installed from the Master Disks for the printer of choice, and in case of pin printers, for the dpi selected. I have found that printing in 360 x 360 dots per inch is not all that I expected. It is certainly denser, and in some cases sharper than 180 x 180 dpi. My original premises in buying the NEC P2200 was that 360x360 would be sharper, and thus better than a laser or jet printer at 300x300 dpi.

It ain't necessarily so! The best results I have found (in the case of the JACG Newsletter) are obtained with 180x180. Anyway, my trouble started because I was having trouble with my Monochrome monitor. After a period of use, when it was well warmed up, the horizontal lines would begin to merge together in the middle of the screen. So, to be on the safe side, I installed Desktop Publisher using my color monitor. This of course means that my ASSIGN.SYS (and incidently the GEMSYS folder) were changed, and when I went back to the mono monitor, and called up Desktop Publisher, these new files wouldn't print out properly, and gave me the results described above. So this leads me to write a new article comparing Desktop Publisher and PageStream 2.01, and here it is:



## TIMeworks DESKTOP PUBLISHER II versus PAGE STREAM 2.01

In view of the difficulties in getting Desktop Publisher installed for a particular monitor and a particular printer (as described above) some of you will say that since DTPublisher is a GDOS program, I should be using G+PLUS to eliminate my problems. Well, I use G+PLUS, and it does what it is supposed to do (speed up screen re-draws, and let you use different ASSIGN.SYS's) really well. But my problem was even deeper than that. Consider, I was fooling around with two different monitors (which means two different sets of screen characters, and two different printer densities (180x180 and 360x360), all working in a GDOS mode. It can be done, but it isn't easy, even with the help of G+PLUS. G+PLUS lets you pick between various ASSIGN.SYS files, but Publisher puts the actual font descriptions in GEMSYS. All the ASSIGN.SYS really does is tell the computer what devices (such as screen resolution, and printer drivers) you are using, and in the case of Publisher, send the program to GEMSYS to get the fonts. In my case, the reason the printer wasn't working was that the ASSIGN.SYS was calling up the wrong fonts.

PageStream 2 does it differently. In the first place, it is not a GDOS program, and does not use GDOS fonts. PageStream 2's proprietary font system uses non-hinted, outline fonts with bitmap representations. PageStream 2 also uses Compugraphic hinted outline fonts and Adobe PostScript Type 1 and Type 3 fonts.

With Desktop Publisher, in order to change the printer you want use, and/or the dpi density, you must re-install the whole program, or save the ASSIGN.SYS and the associated GEMSYS folder for each combination for each monitor resolution. Another associated problem also comes into play, and that is What You See Is Not

What You Get (WYSINWYG). This is particularly noticeable in page zooms. Right justified characters sometimes do not print properly (especially with bold attribute).

With PageStream 2 it is much easier. Fonts you want to use are handled by the sub-program Font Manager, from which you can call up the various font faces, styles, and attributes. When it comes to printing, you call up the printer driver you want, set the density, and off you go.

This article is not meant to be a definitive review of either Timeworks Desktop Publisher or of PageStream 2, but just a brief description of some of the 'troubles I've seen', and maybe some day it will help you.

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### 8 - BIT FEATURE

#### *500 PAGES ON AN 8-BIT by Roger Keller, JACG*

My wife Kathryn has been working on her Doctoral Dissertation for many years and now the moment of truth has arrived and it is time to submit the final draft. Her favorite 8-bit word processing program - Letter Perfect- by LJK software is no longer available for support and all 500 pages (well, most of them) are on 10 disks in LJK DOS.

The problem started when we tried to improve the quality of the print from the draft C-itech 7500 which we have had for years to something modern and fancy. Also the C-itech printer did not align the top of the text with the top of the page after two or three sheets. No amount of fooling with line length helped.

After investigating printers I felt the best selection would be the Epson-LQ 510. This printer had good quality type (24 pin) and was affordable. Best of all it was compatible with all my 16-bit software as well. The Printer driver for LJK



Letter Perfect was Epson MX but that was the closest I could find. I packed up the Atari, my Indus GT drive and Magnavox amber computer monitor and drove to Connecting Point Computers on Route 22.

The system was set up next to an IBM clone and looked out of place but it was ready in no time to test the in store printers for compatability. They would not let me try the LQ-510 but first I tried an epson "compatible" which didn't work with the software. Next I tried an Epson FX and modified several printer commands until I finally has what I thought was success and bought the LQ-510.

Back home I set up and tried out the printer. all was fine but... the type extended to a page and a half. for every one line of type that was on the C-Itoh draft.

Two days later after trying every thing I could think of to get the copy to be the same as the draft and having the Doctorial Candidate threaten very bad things if I didn't get the dissertation printed by the deadline, I attempted a new strategy. David Noyes had told me about transferring the files to another computer and after making adjustments printing from that new program.

The problem here is if you have never used a modum and are not set up to use one, there are several problems that one faces. How to get the material to send, and how to receive, and how to convert prior to sending. The LJK DOS is not compatible with Atari DOS so step one was to convert the files. This is done with the utility disk sold separately by LJK. Where to get one? The company is out of business. JACG to the rescue. I got a copy at one of the meetings and rushed home to try my luck. As you might guess the program was written for the 800 not the 800XL so I needed the translator disk. My cousin had that disk and I was ready again. The

conversion was simple and I soon had a test file to try out.

I had the program Megaterm JACG#203D which I had no Idea how to use but was game to try. I attached a null modem borrowed from work to the 16-bit hoping to use the desk top emulator to receive the information. This was wrong and it didn't work. I never did figure out how to do it because by this time I had only about 6 days to get the dissertation typed out. Another desperate call to JACG. HELP!

With no time left it was suggested that I again try the Epson LQ-510 printer with the 8-bit software. The Idea was to just get the printer to print a page, not to print the same number of lines as the C-ith. This seemed to be the key. I set up a new printer driver and adjusted everything I could adjust. The header printer page length and bottom margin did not react as you would expect but they could be adjusted. A top margin of 7, left margin 14 width 59 line spacing 4 Printed lines 88 font 0 footer 2 and bottom margin 13 worked for all "standard" pages yielding 1" top and bottom margins and 1-1/2" left margin. I used the following other codes as well:

half vert	1B 41 06
full vert	1B 32
font0	12 1b 48
font 1	0F 1B 48
font 2	1B 21 02
font 3	0F 1B 47
boldface on	1B 45
boldface off	1B 46
Underline on	1B 2D 01
Underline off	1B 2D 00
superscript	1B 53 06
subscript disabled and superscript off used in its place	1B 54

The system worked for all double spaced only pages. The dissertation however has single spaced quotes on every page and as soon as it came to a single spaced line the system broke

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



## Noise from Noyes

- D. B. Noyes, JACG

### JACG BBS

Well, It looks like the "kinks" have been finally ironed out of our JACG BBS! It has been running like clockwork for the past month with no problem other than a "hiccup" for a short and very brief period of time when it would not allow for 2400 baud connection. I soon hope to begin uploading (when I've got the time) a few files to the ST file area.

### ANOTHER NAIL IN THE COFFIN?

I first got a card in the mail, and then a couple of weeks later, the *WordPerfect Report* newsletter. So, what's the significance of that? Well, WordPerfect has essentially "thrown in the towel" on the ATARI ST. To quote, "we will no longer be updating WordPerfect for Amiga, Apple, and Atari, but we will continue to offer toll-free telephone support for the current products." To add "insult to injury", Wordperfect has softened the blow to those who currently are registered (ATARI, Amiga, and Apple) owners of WordPerfect by offering WordPerfect for DOS, Windows, or Mac for \$150.00. Wow, golly gee! I'm sure that they'll enhance my ST immensely!

Seriously folks, It doesn't take a mental giant to see the ULTIMATE handwriting on the wall. Far be it from me (a dyed-in-the-wool ATARIAN) to preach doom and gloom, but support is waning. Outside of our devoted advertiser (Software Spectrum), where can one go locally for things ATARI? How many glossy, commercial U.S. ATARI magazines have you read lately? Taken a look at the latest *Atari Explorer*? By the time you pull out the midi section, there's little left (and that little covers ALL ATARI machines. Sure, we've got Current Notes, and AIM, and they're good...but the are, and have always been...excellent NEWSLETTERS. Yes, they are magazine format...but trace their history...look at their humble beginnings...they grew from multiple user

group newsletters and continue along the same lines (MY OPINION).

It's a good thing that there is so much Public Domain, Free/Share ware development in the ATARI world...for I do not see a growth curve on the horizon for ST software, and 8-bit? Off the chart in a downward direction! We are extremely lucky to have such superb disk libraries (both 8 and 16-bit).

### REPAIR

Speaking of support, it is good that we are blessed with two excellent (both JACG NEWSLETTER advertisers!) repair shops. KBS to the west of Morristown, and Dependable Parts to the east of Morristown. In fact, Dependable parts just repaired our (JACG) 4 meg 1040ST. For their addresses and telephone numbers, just look elsewhere in this NEWSLETTER.

### ST DISK LIBRARY

A brief mention of what to expect from the ST Disk Library available at the March (1992) meeting. Two (at a minimum) or three (at a maximum) new disks. These will (as always) have a variety (after all, it is the spice of life) of titles and types of Public Domain, Shareware, and Freeware, highlighted by an excellent word processor (for monochrome use), and an absolutely superb database manager. They are both easy to learn and to use, and are well documented. For the microscopic prices charged for both Disks of the Month, and "regular" ST Library disks, I can't understand why all ST'ers don't purchase (on a routine basis) every new disk as it becomes available.

...So much for this month, stay tuned for more in the future...til next month!



## JERSEY ATARI COMPUTER GROUP

1/ 1/91 Through 12/31/91

JACG-JACG BANK ACCT  
2/ 8/92

Page 1

Category Description	1/ 1/91- 12/31/91
-----	
INCOME/EXPENSE	
INCOME	
Advertising Inc	399.84
Membership Inc.:	
Temp.Membership	30.00
Yrly Membership	1,663.00
	-----
Total Membership Inc.	1,693.00
Misc. Income	4.96
Sale 16bit Pgms	559.00
Sale 8bit pgms	319.00
	-----
TOTAL INCOME	2,975.80
EXPENSES	
3.5 Disk Purch	386.79
5.25 Disk Purch	145.45
Atari User Mag.-Postage	166.00
Awards Etc.:	
Plaques	25.00
	-----
Total Awards Etc.	25.00
Bank Serv. Chg.	54.53
Computer Repair	119.84
Corp. Fees	30.00
Misc.Expense	5.00
Newltr Printing	2,403.60
Postage-Misc.	29.00
Postage-Newsltr	208.38
Software Purch.	109.95
Writers Award	60.00
Expenses - Other	0.00
	-----
TOTAL EXPENSES	3,743.54
	-----
TOTAL INCOME/EXPENSE	-767.74
	=====

BEGINNING BALANCE - 1/1/91 - \$ 1974.32

ENDING BALANCE - 12/31/91 - \$ 1206.58



down. The outcome was that the text was some variable distance short on each printed page. At this point I had no time left as it took 45 seconds to print one page. If there was no time between pages and nothing went wrong (ha ha) I was looking at over 6 hours of printing. I had spent over 16 hours fooling with the printer and the paper was due monday.

My simple solution was to add a stop command (control-F S1) after every default command in the text to stop the printer at each page. (Note the command line in the printer set up would not work). Then go off line and do form up to align the text with the top of the page. 90% of the time this only moved the page a line or a half line.

This was not the best way possibly but it was the only method that I could get to work in the week I had to complete the task. By Midnight Saturday the paper was finished, packed up and delivered on Monday. Did I mention that the Indus drive gave up half way through the Job? Well that's another story!

-----

## COMPUTER SERVICE

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Business Hours:  
MON - FRI 9am to 6pm  
SATURDAY 10am to 4pm

UPS Shipments Gladly Accepted



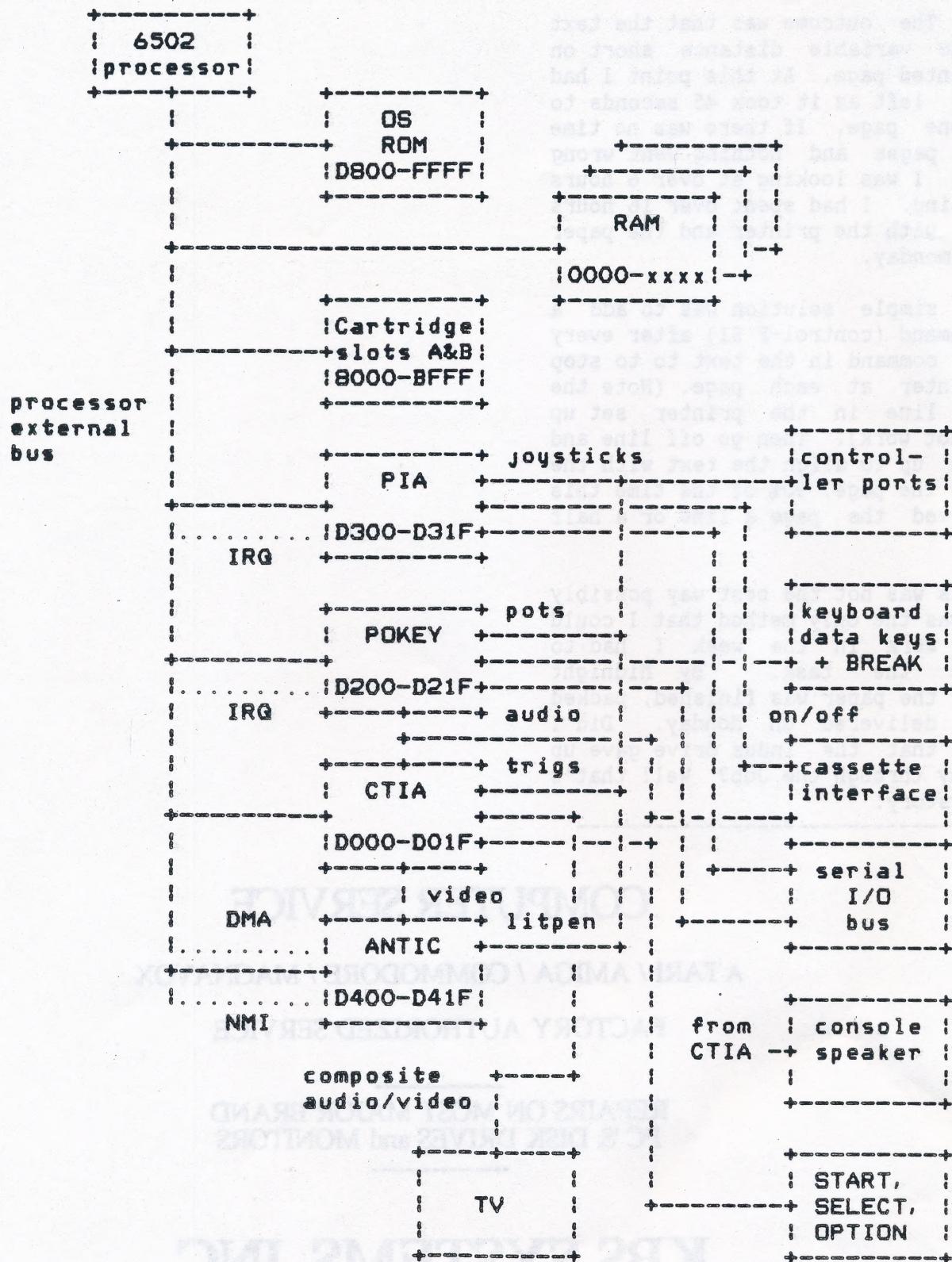


Figure 1-1. ATARI Home Computer Block Diagram



# DEPENDABLE PARTS INC.

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07928

TEL.: (201) 635-5888

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HOURS: Monday through Friday: 9:00 am to 5:30 pm  
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## JACG NEWSLETTER

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